

# PRESS RELEASE

May 10, 2006

**RE: UNITED STATES v. CEM, INC. and RAJ CHOPRA**

United States Attorney Terrance P. Flynn announced today that RAJ CHOPRA, age 42, of Grand Island, NY 14072, pled guilty to making false statements to the EPA related to fraudulent certifications of asbestos training certificates. Mr. Chopra entered the plea of guilty before U.S. District Court Judge John T. Elfvin who scheduled sentencing for September 8, 2006, at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Chopra faces a maximum possible sentence of five years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000.00, or both.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Martin J. Littlefield stated that the Indictment charged the defendant (and his company, CEM, INC.) with falsely certifying to the New York State Department of Health and the United States Environmental Protection Agency that certain students had taken EPA mandated asbestos worker courses, when in fact, they had not attended such a course.

The Indictment was the culmination of an investigation on the part of the New York State Department of Health, Office of Asbestos Safety Training Program; the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Criminal Investigation Division, under the direction of William Lometti; and the Federal Bureau of

Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge  
Laurie Bennett.